1) Can Rec & Park do Harvey Milk Plaza and this at the same time?

Harvey Milk Plaza is under SFMTA's jurisdiction. Recreation and Park Department (RPD) does not have a role on this project.

Public Works is delivering a redesign and upgrading of Harvey Milk Plaza, via a State grant, in coordination with the SFMTA Castro Station elevator project. The recent 2024 Bond (Prop B) allocates up to $25 million specifically for Harvey Milk Plaza that is entirely separate from the *$41 million designated for the Downtown Public Realm category. (*for 2024 Bond reference – see page 3)*

2) Not aware that Prop B money is lined up or eligible for Embarcadero Plaza.

The 2024 Bond (Prop B) allocates $41 million for Downtown public realm projects. Identified projects are improvements to Powell and Market Streets and a category for other Downtown projects, including Embarcadero Plaza, which is already included in the upcoming 10-year Capital Plan update. The public-private partnership will allow the city to accomplish more with precious bond dollars by leveraging the public funds with about $12.5 million in private funding. Thus we can accomplish a project worth about $32 million with fewer public dollars leaving more fund for other important projects.

The Embarcadero Plaza project, outlined in a grant agreement with BXP, the Downtown SF Partnership and OEWD anticipates securing up to $20 million from public funding sources, with Prop B being a potential key contributor.

3) How will money be raised? Both public and private?

The project will be a public-private partnership. Under terms negotiated by City Departments and BXP, the project is estimated to cost between $27 million to $32 million, with the anticipated funding sources outlined below:

- $15M to $20M* in public funding to be secured by RPD and OEWD
- $2.3M in-kind grant from BXP to RPD in design services
- $200,000 cash grant from BXP to RPD to fund project management
- $10M grant from Downtown SF Partnership to RPD expected

**Public funding can come for various sources, including Funds from the 2024 Bond (from the $41M downtown public realm improvement program), the Transit Center Community Facilities District (CFD), and the Downtown Park Fund. Note: $375,000 has already been allocated from the CFD.*

4) Will Rec and Park or Downtown Partnership do fundraising?

The Downtown Partnership will be primarily responsible for fundraising with assistance from partners to the extent allowable by law/city regulations.

RPD is seeking a waiver (to be introduced by Mayor on 1/28/25) from Behested Payments regulations to enable Department and Commission Officials to engage in fundraising efforts within the extent allowable by law/city regulations.

5) Is a behested waiver included in this legislation?

Yes, RPD, via a separate Resolution, is seeking a behested waiver for the project.

All partners agree to comply with Sunshine Ordinance transparency requirements via the grant agreement. Any person or entity donating $100 or more to the project will be listed on the Downtown SF Partnership's website, along with disclosure of any financial relationship with the city.

6) Concerns around how this public funding competes with hospital, fire, police station upgrades.

The 2024 Bond funding is specifically allocated for public realm projects and cannot be available for upgrades to hospital, fire, or police station upgrades.

Note: RPD is exploring other potential funding sources for parks, open spaces, and the public realm improvement, such as the Transit Center CFD mentioned above (see question 3).

7) How does Capital Planning Committee (CPC) feel about all this?

CPC is fully and actively involved with RPD and other agencies to understand and access project needs.

The Embarcadero Plaza project was identified early on as a priority within the Downtown public realm category. The project will undergo the standard and thorough CPC vetting process before receiving approval for any bond funds, which will be allocated during the usual Bond Issuance.

Embarcadero Plaza requires significant renovations due to deferred maintenance to ensure it can reach its full potential. RPD has identified Embarcadero Plaza as an enhancement in its 10-year Capital Plan. It is also included in the Department's Capital Expenditure Plan and will be featured in the upcoming fiscal year 2-year Capital Budget.

***REFERENCE: 2024 BOND (PROP B)**

E. MODERN AND ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS. Up to ~~$46,000,000~~ 41,000,000 of ~~B~~bond proceeds will used to improve and modernize public spaces in the downtown San Francisco areas, which could include areas near Powell and Market Streets, including accessibility improvements, and transit access and pedestrian experience enhancements; up to $25,000,000 of ~~B~~bond proceeds will be used to improve accessibility, safety, and design at the Harvey Milk Plaza; and up to $5,000,000 of ~~B~~bond proceeds will be used to rehabilitate and modernize park infrastructure and improve active recreational spaces.